

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as indicated hereafter. [Use ~~strikethrough~~ for deleted matter (or double square brackets "[[]]" if the strikethrough is not easily perceivable, *i.e.*, "4" or a punctuation mark) and underlined for added matter.]

1. (Currently Amended) A surgical ~~Surgical~~ ring designed to be implanted in the body of a patient around biological organs having a pouch or a duct, in order, ~~on the one hand,~~ to form a closed loop between its two extremities (1, 2), thus forming a first (1) and second (2) extremities and, ~~on the other hand,~~ reduce the diameter of the opening of the ~~said~~ organ when it is tightened by the ring, the said ring comprising a system for reversibly controlling the variation in its diameter, the said system comprising a flexible filiform element (4), wherein ~~characterized in that:~~

the ~~[[-]]~~ ~~said~~ flexible filiform element (4) is inserted longitudinally with possibility of sliding into the material constituting the body of the ring, substantially between the first (1) and second (2) extremities, so as to define a fixed portion (5) united with the first extremity (1) and a free portion (7) which is functionally associated with an actuator (8) mounted on the ring near the second extremity (2), such that the actuator (8) ensures reversible translation of the flexible filiform element (4) in order to obtain a variation associated with the diameter of the ring~~[[,]]~~; and

the ~~[[-]]~~ ~~said~~ free portion (7) is provided with a means of force cooperation (10) with the actuator (8), the said means of force cooperation (10) being formed of a screw thread pitch.

2. (Currently Amended) The ring ~~Ring~~ according to claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the flexible filiform element (4) is formed of a flexible core (11) on which at least one spring with un-joined loops (12) is affixed and coaxially wound, making the screw thread pitch.

3. (Currently Amended) The ring ~~Ring~~ according to claim 2, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ flexible filiform element (4) comprises two un-joined loop springs (12A, 12B) so as to form the screw thread pitch, respectively, a first spring (12A) wound helicoidally along the flexible core (11) and a second spring (12B) of greater exterior diameter, with loops (14) of rectangular transverse section, the said first spring (12A) is interposed between the loops (14) of the second spring (12B) in order to maintain a constant square screw thread pitch.

4. (Currently Amended) The ring Ring according to claim 3 ~~one of claims 1 to 3,~~ wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the actuator (8) is provided with a nut to ensure the screw thread pitch drive.

5. (Currently Amended) The ring Ring according to one of claim 4 ~~claims 1 to 4,~~ wherein the ring ~~characterized in that~~ it is formed of a main body based on a compressible material (20) in which is inserted, with the possibility of sliding, the flexible filiform element (4).

6. (Currently Amended) The ring Ring according to claim 5, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the compressible material (20) is ePTFE.

7. (Currently Amended) The ring Ring according to claim 5 ~~or 6,~~ wherein the ring ~~further comprises~~ characterized in that it is provided outside with a protective external envelope ~~covering~~ (3), made ~~for example~~ of silicone.

8. (Currently Amended) The ring Ring according to claim 1 ~~one of claims 1 to 7,~~ wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the actuator (8) is an electric motor.

9. (Currently Amended) The ring Ring according to claim 8, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the electric motor is linked to a receiving antenna (30) designed to be implanted in the body of the patient.

10. (Currently Amended) The ring Ring according to claim 9, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the receiving antenna (30) is collapsible.

11. (Currently Amended) The ring Ring according to claim 9 ~~or 10,~~ wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the electric motor is linked to the receiving antenna (30) by an electrical connection (31), protected by a duct (33) at the extremity of which is mounted the receiving antenna (30).

12. (Currently Amended) The ring Ring according to claim ~~10~~ or 11, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the receiving antenna (30) is made in one piece, for example in the shape of a disk, which is collapsible on itself substantially according to the diameter of the disk.

13. (Currently Amended) The ring Ring according to claim 7 ~~one of claims 1 to 12~~, wherein the ~~characterized in that its~~ external envelope (3) further comprises ~~features~~ a reinforced dorsal periphery (25), in order to favor radial variation of the diameter of the ring at its internal periphery, opposite its dorsal periphery.

14. (Currently Amended) The ring Ring according to claim 13, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the reinforced dorsal periphery (25) is formed of a dorsal thickness of the external envelope that is greater than the rest of the external envelope (3) ~~and/or~~ of a polymeric material of greater hardness.

15. (Currently Amended) The ring Ring according to claim ~~13~~ or 14, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the reinforced dorsal periphery (25) comprises a reinforcing insert (26), preferably made of metal.

16. (Currently Amended) The ring Ring according to claim 1 ~~one of the preceding claims~~, wherein the ring further comprises ~~characterized in that it is made of~~ a gastric ring designed to be implanted around the stomach or esophagus.

17. (Currently Amended) The ring Ring according to claim 1, wherein the ring is ~~one of claims 1 to 16~~, characterized in that it is formed of a ring designed to be implanted around one of the group consisting of: a the bladder, or a urinary tracts, or around a gastro-intestinal tract[[s]], or around a blood vessel[[s]].

18. (Currently Amended) A system System for restricting and remote control of ingestion of food into a the stomach of a patient, comprising:

a surgical ring designed to be implanted in the body of a patient around biological organs having a pouch or a duct, in order to form a closed loop between its two extremities (1, 2), thus forming a first (1) and second (2) extremities and reduce the diameter of the opening of the organ when it is tightened by the ring, the ring comprising a system for reversibly controlling the variation in its diameter, the system comprising a flexible filiform element (4);

wherein the flexible filiform element (4) is inserted longitudinally with possibility of sliding into the material constituting the body of the ring, substantially between the first (1) and second (2) extremities, so as to define a fixed portion (5) united with the first extremity (1) and a free portion (7) which is functionally associated with an actuator (8) mounted on the ring near the second extremity (2), such that the actuator (8) ensures reversible translation of the flexible filiform element (4) in order to obtain a variation associated with the diameter of the ring;

the free portion (7) is provided with a means of force cooperation (10) with the actuator (8), the means of force cooperation (10) being formed of a screw thread pitch;

~~[[-]] a gastric ring in compliance with one of claims 1 to 18 and comprising, as an~~ the ~~actuator (8); further comprises~~ an electric motor which is linked to a receiving antenna (30) so as to receive a control and power signal, and

~~[[-]] an emitting antenna arranged outside the patient, in order to send a control and power signal to the receiving antenna (30),~~ the said emitter antenna being functionally linked to a control interface.